



Department of Justice

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**COREY GUTHRIE SENTENCED TO 25 YEARS AND RONALD KEMP
SENTENCED TO 11 1/2 YEARS FOR ARMED CAR JACKING**

*- One defendant a previously convicted felon
- Sawed-off shotgun discharged during high speed chase*

LOUISVILLE, KY - Corey L. Guthrie, age 21, of Louisville, Kentucky, in Jefferson County, was sentenced on September 24, 2007, to 25 years imprisonment in United States District Court, Louisville, Kentucky, for armed car jacking, discharging a firearm during a crime of violence, possession of an unregistered firearm, and being a felon in possession of a firearm; and Ronald L. Kemp, age 25, of Louisville, to 11 1/2 years imprisonment for armed car jacking, discharging a firearm during a crime of violence, and possession of an unregistered firearm, U.S. Attorney David L. Huber of the Western District of Kentucky and Paul Vido, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Louisville Field Division, jointly announced today. Judge Jennifer B. Coffman, United States District Court, also sentenced Guthrie to 5 years supervised release and Kemp to 5 years supervised release following incarceration. There is no parole in the federal judicial system. Judge Coffman also ordered restitution in the amount of \$1,930.91 to be paid.

A federal jury in United States District Court found Guthrie guilty of the charges on June 6, 2007 following a two and one-half day trial before Judge Coffman. Kemp pled guilty to the charges on January 23, 2007.

Guthrie's previous felony convictions include convictions for Second Degree Burglary, Second Degree Assault, First Degree Fleeing or Evading Police, First Degree Criminal Mischief, Receiving Stolen Property (firearm), First Degree Wanton Endangerment, and Intimidating a Witness in case number 03CR0220 in Jefferson Circuit Court, Louisville, Kentucky, on January 14, 2004.

U.S. Attorney Huber praised the Louisville Police Department and the Kentucky State Police for their quick action and stated that "federal cooperation with local law enforcement is the key to keeping violent criminals off of our streets and our communities safe."

During Guthrie's trial, the jury heard testimony that two men entered the victim's Louisville apartment on the night of May 3, 2005. When the two men entered the apartment, Kemp carried a Harrington & Richardson, model 48, 16 gauge, twenty-inch sawed-off shotgun. Guthrie carried a Lorcin, model L22, .22 caliber, semiautomatic pistol.

When Guthrie and Kemp did not find any money in the apartment, they forced the victim to leave the apartment and drive them around in her car while they called her boyfriend on a cellular telephone and demanded that he bring them money. During the course of events, Guthrie and Kemp stated that if the boyfriend did not bring them money, the victim would be killed.

After being notified of the home invasion and kidnapping of the victim, officers of the Louisville Metro Police Department (LMPD) located the victim's car. Guthrie, Kemp, and the victim were still in it. Officers initiated a traffic stop but the victim was ordered not to stop. A car chase ensued. The pursuit lasted some thirty minutes and reached speeds of 100 miles per hour. At one point during the chase, a Kentucky State Police (KSP) trooper joined in and pulled his cruiser in front of the victim's car in an attempt to slow it down. When the trooper pulled into position, Kemp fired the shotgun into the rear of the KSP cruiser.

The pursuit ended when the victim's car entered a residential area. LMPD officers were able to safely stop the victim's car as it slowed down to make a turn. LMPD officers apprehended Guthrie and Kemp. The victim was not injured.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Michael A. Bennett. The Louisville Field Office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) conducted the investigation in partnership with the Louisville Metro Police Department, and the Kentucky State Police, as part of ATF's mandated mission to reduce violent crime and other threats to public safety.

This is a **Project Backfire** prosecution. **Project Backfire** is a cooperative effort by the Jefferson County Attorney's Office, the Jefferson County Commonwealth's Attorneys Office, the Louisville Metro Police Department, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and the United States Attorney's Office to ensure firearm offenses are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the state and federal law.

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